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## Easterner, Vol. 66, No. 21, April 1, 2015

Associated Students of Eastern Washington University

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NCAA Tournament: **EWU 74, Georgetown 84**

## Balancing Bounces



Photo by Anna Mills

No. 44 Felix Von Hofe, a native of Melbourne, Australia, fights for a loose ball in Eastern's loss to Georgetown in the NCAA game on March 19.

### Eastern slips backward against Georgetown Hoyas in NCAA's second tournament

By **FETLEW GEBREZIABHER**  
online sports editor

The music stops and the dancing comes to an end for the Eastern Washington men's basketball team.

EWU's season came to an end after an 84-74 loss to the Georgetown Hoyas in the second round of the NCAA tournament on March 19.

The 13 seeded Eagles were down by as much as 23 in the second half, but a late rally that brought them within eight was not enough to beat the Hoyas.

"Congratulations to Georgetown. They're a very good team. The difference tonight was how they shot the ball and how we shot the ball. We needed a really good shooting night to beat them. We didn't bring it," said head coach Jim Hayford after the game. "That probably needs to be a credit to them for their defense. Those are some long guys that you're shooting over, and they play very smart. I give them full credit. We didn't lose tonight; they beat us. You saw my team

has great character, great fight. We played it down [until] the end. I'm just really proud."

Eastern's largest lead was seven points in the first half for 8 minutes, then it was all Georgetown. The Hoyas took the lead, 29-28, then went on 24-17 run to end the half and never looked back.

"They play hard. They play really hard. I'm glad we were playing basketball. I wouldn't want to wrestle or play football against them," said Hayford jokingly. "I think they were intense. I think their coaching staff let them know — they were ready to play the first round. I mean, they were intense. They were tough. Those guys are tough."

The Eagles open the second half trailing 43-33, and momentum continued to favor the Hoyas.

Georgetown went on to score two quick baskets to extend their lead 47-33, until junior forward Venky Jois scored EWU's first basket at the 17:12 mark to make it 47-35.

The Eagles would not score again until the 13:02 mark to end the Hoyas 11-0 run to make it 58-37. It was EWU's largest deficit of the game.

"Georgetown, they're a really big team. We don't have those kinds of teams in the Big Sky. But they're really long," said junior guard Tyler Harvey. "They're aggressive on defense. We got a couple open looks. Just didn't go down for us. They're a really long team. You've got to hit shots against them."

The nation's leading scorer lead all scores with 27 points on 9 of 20 shooting, 6 of 12 from deep.

The Eagles, who average 40 percent from the 3-point line during the season, shot just 32 percent on 9 of 28 shooting against Georgetown.

The Hoyas big bodies on defense made it difficult for the Eagles shooters to get shots off.

"In the post, you're facing 6'10" athletic guys you don't see in the Big Sky. It's just a different look. You know, I really don't think we couldn't have scored against them, I think we did in spurts," said Jois. "Like coach said, it was just a matter of, we needed to shoot really well. Credit to them, they stopped us."

EWU shot 40 percent from the field compared to the Hoyas 52 percent. Georgetown, who shot 35 percent from the three during



Photo by Anna Mills

No. 55 Venky Jois drives to the basket against Georgetown.

the regular season, shot 48 percent against the Eagles.

Coach Hayford was asked if he regretted making his comment the previous day about guaranteeing an Eagles win. "No, not at all. I don't think that motivated

them. I wouldn't have wanted to play this team without my team having full confidence."

The Eagles finished their season with a record of 26-9, capping one of the best seasons in school history.

### INSIDE:

NEWS PAGE 2 • EAGLE LIFE PAGE 3 • COMMUNITY PAGE 6 • OPINION PAGE 7 • SPORTS PAGE 9

### Upcoming Events:

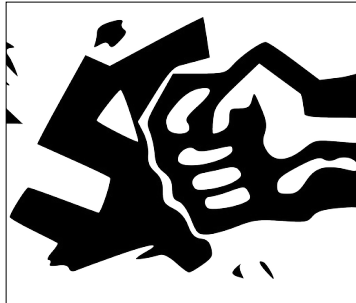
**April**  
April 1-4: **FIRST Robotics Competition:** The Pacific Northwest competition — a sport of science, teamwork and technology — will return to Eastern's Reece Court with more than 1,200 high school students attending from Oregon and Washington state. The event is free, and the public is open to view competitive play on April 2 starting at 2 p.m.

April 9: **Young Professionals Network: Leadership, Management, Entrepreneurship.** Join the network in April at the McKinstry Innovation Center starting at 5:30 p.m. to converse with a diverse panel of managers and leaders from various businesses. Sponsored by Numerica Credit Union.

April 11: **Admitted Student Day:** Students and families can attend special sessions starting at 8:30 a.m. in Showalter Hall.

April 15: **The Roots of Music: Explore Earth's Soundscapes with George Halekas** will be presented at 12 p.m. in Showalter 109. Sponsored by the EWU Honors Program, biologist George Halekas will elaborate on nature, the human spirit, music and how it all weaves together within ecology.

April 16-18: **National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)** will be in the URC starting at noon.



### OPINION: Uncomfortable Realities of Free Speech

What to do with hate and why hate groups are allowed to persist, [page 7](#)



# ASEWU elections open for next year’s senate positions

# Health program takes new focus

By JASMINE KEMP  
news editor

After all the poking and prodding, the interrogating and pain, a sexual-assault survivor needs all the support they can get from their friends, family and community.

EWU Health Wellness and Prevention Services has the conversation rolling with a local adaptation of the national Start by Believing campaign.

Start by Believing is part of End Violence Against Women International. The campaign’s focus is educating people about how to respond to sexual assault. Their website relates the ideas that the wrong reaction to a survivor confiding in their friends or family can propagate a harmful environment for healing and the continuance of sexual assaults in the community.

Health, wellness and prevention services director, Tricia Hughes, said these kinds of conversations need to happen. The subject can be difficult to discuss, but that should not be an excuse not to talk about sexual assault, at all.

Since this particular program focuses on how to help a friend, Hughes said the community would be more receptive to talking about such sensitive issues.

Health and Wellness provide presentations to any people or group entity on campus. Their two main goals for the presentation is to establish what anyone should say to a survivor and to provide resources that are not only available to students on campus but out in the community.

According to Hughes, they have given presentations to 300 students and staff. About a third of those 300 are faculty members.

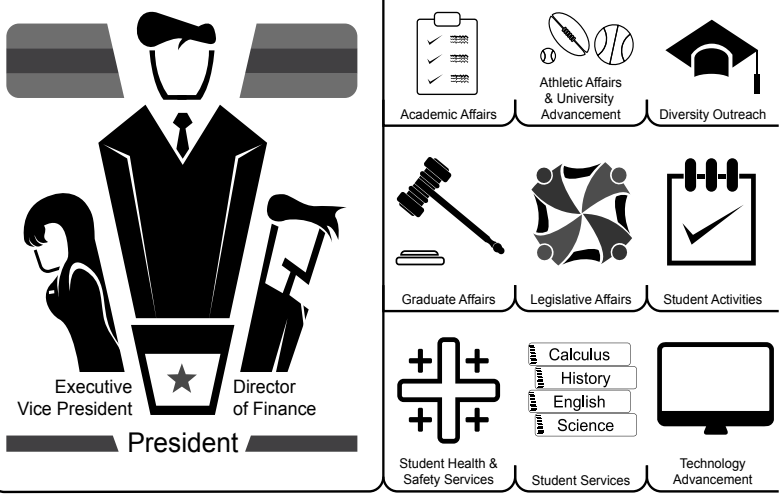
EWU has a page set up on their website discussing what to do after a sexual assault but it only does this from the viewpoint of the victim.

Sexual assault education is not foreign to the Eastern campus. EWU’s annual police and fire report (mandated by the CLERY Act) states that “all undergraduate students are expected to participate in a program during [orientation] that addresses sexual communication and sexual assault awareness.”

While these courses are preventative training, the mission statement of Start By Believing states education helps eliminate the shame felt by sexual assault survivors.

## Open Positions To Run For

Executive Officer Positions      Council Representatives



Graphic by William Hayden

By CONNER FAULKNER  
contributing writer

There are three executive positions and nine representative positions open for the upcoming ASEWU elections, with applications being accepted beginning

on April 3. There is a primary election scheduled for April 21 after the application process ends, then a general election on May 5. Candidates will have the opportunity to attend election events where they meet with the

students voting and answer any questions they may have. These events will be posted on Eagle-Sync and heavily advertised when the dates have been decided.

Each position is paid as stipulated in the ASEWU constitution and bylaws. The student government is in charge of representing and addressing the concerns and needs of the students to the EWU administration, the board of trustees, the faculty and the state legislature.

“When I first started, one of the things that helped me out the most was remembering peoples’ names,” said ASEWU president Dahir “D.J.” Jigre. “That way, more people knew who I was when I was running.”

However, it is not only about remembering the names. “Incentives are ideal,” said Jigre. “When you’re talking with people, hand out candy or other treats so they remember you.”

Jigre emphasized dressing up every day, not just on campus, but off campus as well. He specifically bought two suits to wear during his campaign. “I wore the suits the moment I woke up, till

the moment I went to bed,” he said. “Image is everything.”

“You cannot please people,” Jigre said as he recalled stories of promising he would change something, then learning later he could not. “You have to think about what the students need, not necessarily what they want. Within budget, it’s not just our campus; the council represents the 2,000 students attending River Point and their needs as well.”

Dahir “D.J.” Jigre  
ASEWU President

Kyle Dodson, the Athletic Affairs and University Advancement representative, reiterated the importance of remembering names and offering incentives. “You have to be outgoing enough to go engage people you don’t know,” he said. “Something I did during a hot, spring day was I handed out Otter Pops to people walking by.”

Anyone looking to become a 2015-2016 ASEWU candidate can sign up at the office in PUB 303 or by emailing Kelsey Lavelle, director of elections, at asewuelections@ewu.edu. The deadline is April 10 at 3 p.m.

# Washington legislation considers new bills

By KATIE DUNN  
staff writer

Bills under current consideration in Olympia may impact Eastern’s future students.

This year, a speed limit increase for Interstate 90, Washington State primary elections and college tuition and textbooks are all areas of interest for the Washington State House of Representatives and Senate.

Senate Bill 5228, introduced Jan. 15 to the Senate Transportation Committee, proposes a study that could allow for an increase in the maximum speed limit for Interstate 90, bumping it from 70 mph to 75 mph in rural counties.

Rep. Joe Schmick of the 9th District is the primary sponsor of the bill.

“I drive that road a lot and when I looked into fatalities they had for I-90 I thought, ‘Maybe we should look at raising the speed limit out there where there’s not a lot of traffic,’” said Schmick.

Schmick said the bill allows the Department of Transportation to take a look at road conditions of that portion of I-90 to determine if it is safe to allow an increase in speed.

The bill also gives authority to the secretary of transportation to make the speed limit increase if the road is determined to be safe enough.

Originally the bill did not specify in which rural counties the increase would occur, but on Feb. 18 the committee passed a substitute bill specifying the portion of Interstate 90 from Ellensburg to the Spokane and Lincoln county border.

According to Schmick, the House passed the bill and it is now moving to the Senate

Transportation Committee.

Senate Bill 5954 calls for a reduction in college tuition and was read to the Higher Education committee on Feb. 12.

This bill would place a limit on how much public colleges and universities could charge for tuition depending on the state’s average wage.

According to the Office of Financial Management, in 2012 Washington’s average wage was \$52,945.

Under RCW 50.04.355 of the bill, the tuition for regional universities like Eastern Washington University and The Evergreen State College would not increase for the 2014-15 academic year and would be no less than 10 percent of the state’s average wage.

Senator John Braun of the 20th District is the major sponsor of this bill. On March 11, the bill passed from the Senate to the House.

The purpose of Senate Bill 5978 is to modify Washington state’s current way of conducting primary presidential elections. The bill was introduced Feb 13, to the Government Operations and Security committee.

According to the bill, the current presidential caucus restricts people who are disabled, who work in the evenings, are members of the armed services and anyone else who is unable to attend the caucuses. The purpose of bill 5978 is to allow for more people to participate by relying on primary elections instead of caucuses.

If the bill is passed, a primary will be held on the second Tuesday in March of a year where the United States president is being elected.

The main sponsor for this bill is Rep. Sam Hunt of the 22nd district.

One bill in Olympia that would have impact-

### New Bills in Washington

- Senate Bill 5954**  
Reduction in college tuition
- House Bill 1958**  
Cap textbook costs at \$100 unless there is no lower-cost comparable alternative
- Senate Bill 5228**  
Increase in the maximum speed limit for Interstate 90, bumping it from 70 mph to 75 mph
- Senate Bill 5978**  
Modify Washington state's current way of conducting primary presidential elections

Graphic by Joseph Weeden

ed students at Eastern has already met its end.

According to EWU legislative liaison Jordan Martin, House Bill 1973 that would have allowed EWU to take part in a pilot program to use open-source materials for textbooks did not pass out of House Appropriations committee in time for the Feb. 27 cutoff date.

“So it looks like this bill is dead,” said Martin. “However, Rep. Stambaugh and others are working to get the program funded in the final budget, so we will have to see how that shakes out in a few months.”

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For more information and a full listing of EWU events, visit <http://ewu.edu> for a current list

April 1-4	Saturday, April 11	Wednesday, April 15	Thursday, April 16	April 16-18
FIRST Robotics Competition Championship, sponsored by Washington FIRST Robotics  For times, see ewu.edu   Reese Court	Admitted Student Day sponsored by EWU Office of Admissions  8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.   Showalter Hall	The Roots of Music: Explore Earth's Soundscapes with George Halekas  Noon   Showalter 109	Graduate Research and Creative Works Symposium  For times, see ewu.edu   For locations, see ewu.edu	National Conference on Undergraduate Research  For times, see ewu.edu   URC

REVIEW



Contributed by Summit Entertainment

“John Wick” is the Keanu Reeves action film you never knew you needed to see

“John Wick” came from under the radar to blow away any expectations I had. With all due respect to our boy Reeves, his career has been a bit hit or miss the last decade, but it seems like he’s finally hit his stride with this one.



CHRIS MUDD

The film follows John Wick, an

ex-hitman for the Russian mafia, as he revenges his way through the New York criminal underground. That’s it. Not to spoil anything, but after the initial incident that fuels John Wick’s vengeance streak, I was rooting for Wick all the way. Director Chad Stahelski knows exactly what buttons to press to get me to care about a character, we follow Wick’s emotional arc through his despair, seeping slowly into revenge. Stahelski has a background in

stunts and action choreography, with credits ranging from “300” to “The Matrix,” and his directorial debut with “Wick” seems to be a complete playground for him. We see every morsel of delicious action with no camera trickery to hide mistakes and pacing issues. It’s a breath of fresh air into a genre that seems to have lost its way with the influx of computer-generated effects. It was dirty, brutal and invigorating to watch Keanu tear his enemies apart. For what “Wick” lacked in sto-

ry, the world it built through its characters was unique, captivating and downright awesome. At no point did it feel like the story was holding my hand, slowly introducing me to one bit of exposition after another. The first 10 minutes of the film gave the audience everything they need to know about the protagonist and why he is fighting in the first place. The dialogue was sappy, over-the-top and completely perfect. If the audience allowed itself to be

consumed by the film and give in to the universe, the viewing experience becomes unforgettably fun. The argument could be made, due to the lack of riveting narrative, “John Wick” wasn’t exactly a great film from a story perspective. I’ll grant that, but it sure was a fun flick to shut your brain off to and just enjoy. With a sequel already announced, “John Wick” has established for itself a spot on the list of action movie icons alongside “Terminator” and “Die Hard.”

EWU professor featured in JFK book release series

BY RACHEL BAKER  
contributing writer

Students have different ways of handling stress and frustration, but what if someone said that instead of opting to give up and stay in bed until summer comes, to try a little compassion to get through the day?



Kolts

That is exactly what EWU psychology professor Russell Kolts, Ph.D., recommended in his new book, “Living with an Open Heart,” which announced its U.S. release on March 11 as part of the JFK Winter Faculty Book Release Series.

Kolts said compassion focused therapy (CFT) is at the heart of his psychiatric practice and writings. “Compassion is being willing to stare at the pain and suffering,” he said. He said compassion is surrounded by misconceptions of being sweet and vulnerable but rather it is a way in which we engage in what terrifies us and causes us to struggle. Kolts said he was inspired to write “Living with an Open Heart” several years ago when he was approached by a student dealing with an abusive mother dying of cancer. In search for advice for his student, Kolts picked up a book about the Dalai Lama’s journey of forgiveness. This sparked his interest in Buddhist meditation and compassion practices for seeking emotional strength, kindness and courage.

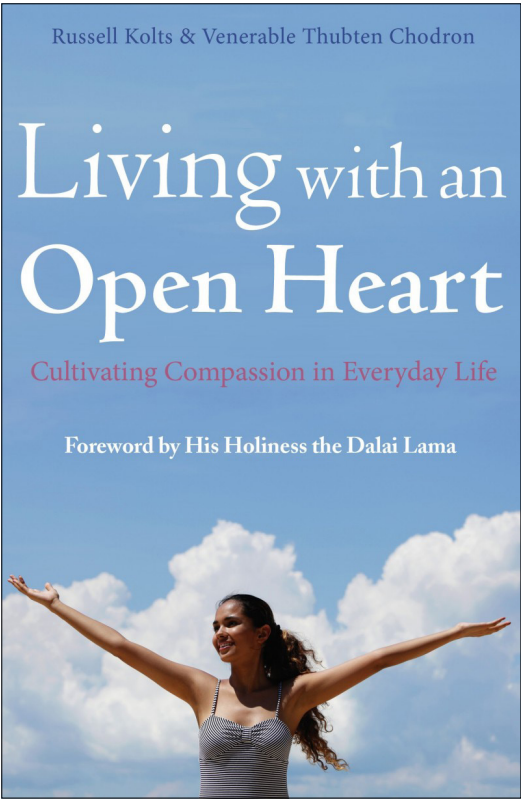
“It’s a collection of brief entries, designed to be read one at a time. Each entry ends in a practice.”

Russel Kolts  
EWU psychology professor

Kolts said he solved the problem of people not having the time for meditation and compassion by designing his book to be read daily in small segments. “It’s a collection of brief entries, designed to be read one at a time,” said Kolts. “Each entry ends in a practice.” Although Kolts incorporated Buddhist philosophy and practices in his psychiatric advice, he does not practice Buddhism himself. To give his book an interpreta-

tion of Buddhist-practices credibility, Kolts sought the help of Venerable Thubten Chodron, a Buddhist nun who teaches at Sravasti Abbey, a Tibetan Buddhist monastery outside of Newport, Oregon. Having authored numerous works of her own, Kolts invited her to be the coauthor of “Living with an Open Heart.” Currently, Kolts has several works in progress, including a book titled “CFT Made Simple,” which he anticipates finishing in July. He was also selected to be the lead author on a work called, “Experiencing CFT from the Inside Out” which is a personal guide for therapists looking to practice CFT themselves.

For more information or to purchase this book, visit [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



Contributed by Robinson Publishing

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REVIEW

Bloodborne: The Reason You Bought a PS4

“Bloodborne” is a dive into the rain soaked and melancholy world of Yharnam, leaving the player with a dread few games manage to instill. The dreary, fog-filled streets of “Bloodborne” make for a panic-inducing environment to combat some of the most horrific creatures in gaming. Its game design is in top form, having refined the elements that made “Dark Souls,” the first game released by From Software in the world of Yharnam, so enticing.



CHRIS MUDD

No longer do players loot souls from the corpses they plunder as games in the “Dark Souls” world, instead blood vials are commonplace and used as a sort of currency, with larger and more imposing monsters presenting the player with larger sums. Used to upgrade or alter existing items, the blood never loses its usefulness no matter how far into the game the player progresses.

One will need those upgrades, as the number of weapons in the game has been limited compared to “Dark Souls.” This isn’t exactly a problem, as the weapons that players do have are infinitely more complex. For example, each weapon now has an alternate style through which it can be used, such as a sword that transforms into a whip with a flick of the wrist.

“Bloodborne” also introduces the use of firearms. When choosing to use a one-handed weapon, the other hand can be used to fire a burst attack that doesn’t do much damage, but certainly pushes back the opponent for a limited time. The guns create space in a game where reaction time and accuracy determine life or death.

The speed of combat seems to have increased compared to “Dark Souls,” although this is perhaps due to the lack of defensive items in the game. It’s virtually unheard of to block. Instead, players are encouraged to simply dodge and roll



Contributed by Flickr



No longer do players loot souls from the corpses they plunder as games in the ‘Dark Souls’ world, instead blood vials are commonplace and used as a sort of currency.

Chris Mudd  
Mudd Reviews

away from attacks. This makes it impossible to turtle up and defend and forces the player to be aggressive.

The story of “Bloodborne” is undeniably nonexistent. There are a few poetic dialogue scenes that cryptically inform the player where to go and what they have to do, but there doesn’t appear to be any long-term narrative that flows through the game.

Instead, “Bloodborne” relies on world-building and mood, instilling an emotional response within the hearts of those who play. Somewhere between fear, panic and a deep, longing sadness, “Bloodborne” executes its emotional through-line perfectly.

From Software has always set a name for themselves in the world of creature design, but “Bloodborne” exemplifies its

talents. The trembling and roaring flesh-beasts that bear down on the player from the beginning are so eerie that on more than one occasion, I died just from enjoying the creepy spectacle of watching its animations.

“Bloodborne” is a must-have if you own a PS4. Shut out the lights and become absorbed. It’s an unforgettable experience.

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NCAA PHOTO SPREAD



Sir Washington



Bogdan Bliznyuk dribbles past Hoya defender.



Jim Hayford paces the sideline.



EWU Cheer Team performs at the Moda Center in Portland, Oregon.



Tyler Harvey rises up for a shot over Georgetown University.

Photos by Anna Mills

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Nicole Ruse  
easterner.editor@gmail.com  
509-359-6737

MANAGING EDITOR

Nathan Peters  
easterner.me@gmail.com  
509-359-4318

ONLINE EDITOR

Brian Patterson  
easterner.online@gmail.com

CHIEF COPY EDITOR

Eric Long  
easterner.copy@gmail.com

ART DIRECTOR

NOW HIRING  
easterner.photo@gmail.com

STAFF ADVISER

Jamie Neely

NEWS EDITOR

Jasmine Kemp  
easterner.news@gmail.com

EAGLE LIFE EDITOR

Jaclyn Archer  
easterner.eaglelife@gmail.com

SPORTS EDITOR

Samuel Deal  
easterner.sports@gmail.com

OPINION EDITOR

Zoë Colburn  
easterner.opinion@gmail.com

ONLINE SPORTS EDITOR

Fetlew Gebreziabher  
fgebreziabher@gmail.com

COPY DESK

Claire Simpson  
Ivy Nall

DISTRIBUTER

Griffin Stiles

GRAPHIC ARTISTS

Joseph Weeden  
Lauren Campell

PAGE DESIGNERS

Kayla Lee  
William Hayden

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jessica Hawley  
Anna Mills  
Laura Lango

STAFF WRITERS

Chris Mudd  
Katie Dunn  
Alexander Miller  
Ariel Kimbleton  
Brandon Cline

Police Beat

By CLAIRE SIMPSON  
copy editor

March 15

11:41 p.m.  
Marijuana

The smell of marijuana alerted CAs to a group of people gathered in a room on the sixth floor of Morrison Hall. The resident of the room was an underaged and had several previous encounters with the university police regarding marijuana. She refused to allow a search of the room and was referred to Student Rights and Responsibilities.

March 17

8:42 a.m.  
Collision

It was reported that a parking pole with a handicapped sign in P-10 had been hit. It was bent completely to the ground, and the damage is estimated to be worth \$250. There are no leads or suspects.

March 19

11:13 a.m.  
Malicious Mischief

A resident on the 11th floor of Pearce Hall was cleaning her room when she noticed several small holes in the wooden door as if pellets had been shot into it. She does not know who may have done it, so there are no leads or suspects.

2:48 p.m.  
Theft

A student reported a gray mountain bike that had been stolen on March 16. There are no leads or suspects.

March 22

11:30 a.m.  
Theft

Officers assisted the Cheney Police Department in investigating a theft at Mitchell's Harvest Food.

7:43 a.m.  
Alcohol

Two intoxicated students were found sitting with a car at the challenge course. One was underaged, so he was cited with a Minor in Possession, while the other was given a verbal warning.

March 25

8:29 a.m.  
Malicious Mischief

The owner of a white Ford Ranger parked in P-13 found that all four of the tires had been slashed. It will cost \$500 to replace them, but because the owner is aware of no grudges, there are no leads or suspects.





@EasternerOnline - What have your spring quarter classes been like so far? • Share your thoughts with us.

OP-ED

EWU campus mall trees are gone, what’s next?

By ERIC LONG  
chief copy editor

Walking through the campus mall today, I noticed something different. The cherry blossoms that so beautifully filled the mall are now gone, feeling empty and unwelcoming. One of the things I always tell people about Eastern is we have a beautiful campus and when families visit, they are impressed by what they see. Between the oranges, yellows and reds of fall and the pinks and greens of spring, campus is beautiful for a good chunk of the year. I can’t help but wonder why such a big part of campus would be made to look so boring. It’s upsetting. There are some parts of campus that need to be spruced up a bit. Right outside of Patterson Hall there is a hole in the ground and next to it, lying on the ground, is a car barricade. Eastern Washington University Facilities and Planning is in charge of the landscaping at EWU. For the most part, I feel the department has done a decent job, but taking the cherry blossoms out of the campus mall has put a bitter taste in my mouth.



Long

The department claims its staff “supports campus facilities and provides leadership to support the development of the university’s infrastructure,” according to the EWU Facilities and Planning page on Eastern’s website. The campus mall situation does not support this claim. Taking out the cherry blossoms only hurt Eastern’s infrastructure. Students I talked to about the trees being taken out said they didn’t notice the trees were gone. However, when I showed them, all seemed to have the same question. “Why?” EWU junior Amanda Aragundi said, rhetorically. Aragundi said she could understand taking the trees down if there was problem. Yet, if there was no reason, she said cutting them down took away from the quaintness of Eastern’s campus, one that has an impressive landscape, according to Aragundi. Jessica Murillo, a senior at Eastern, said she thought the cherry blossoms in the mall were helpful because they provided shade for events like Diversity Week. “They were really nice because they looked like [the other cherry blossoms on campus] during the springtime when they blossomed,” said Murillo. EWU senior Raul Aranzazu said he noticed something wasn’t right when he walked through the campus mall.

TREES-PAGE 8

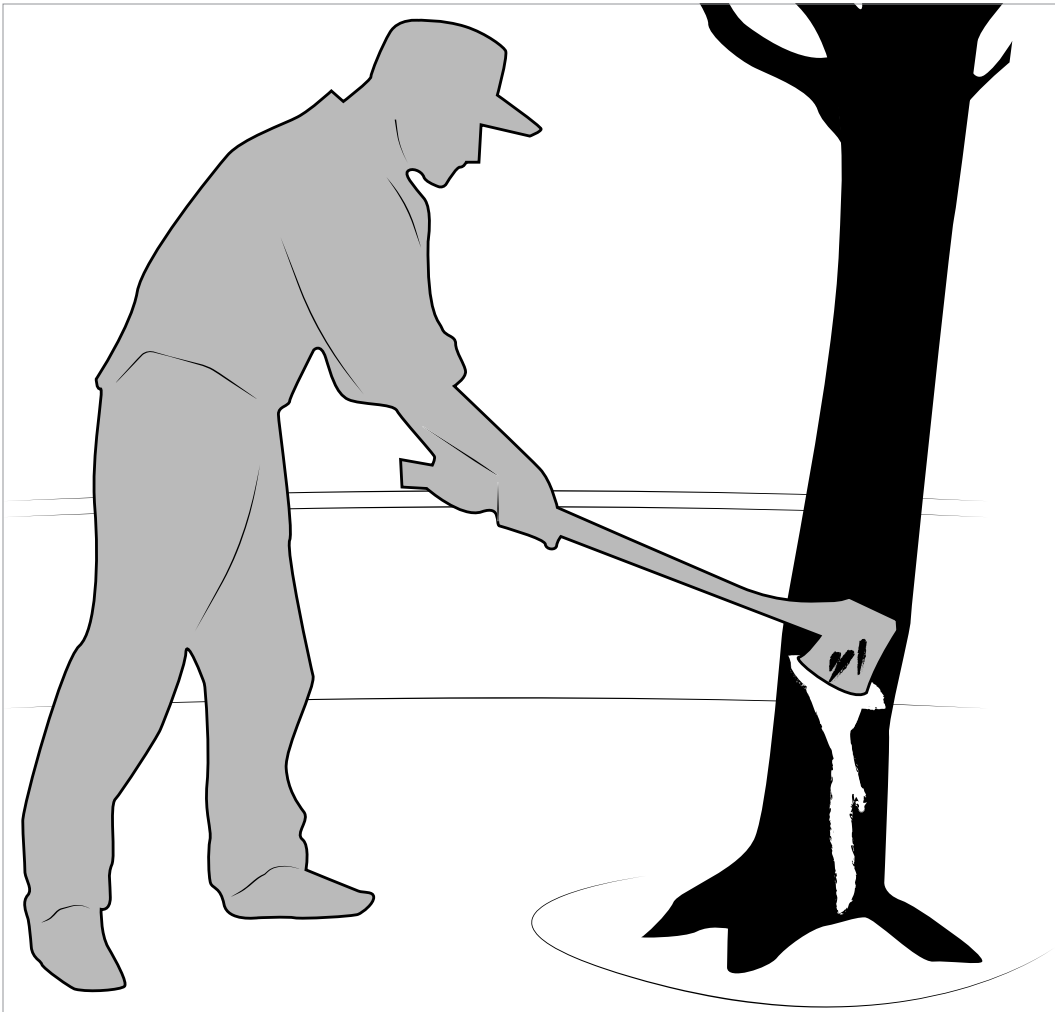


Illustration by Joseph Weeden

Free speech and the scourge of hate groups

By JACLYN ARCHER  
eagle life editor

“You can sleep tonight knowing the Klan is awake!” The image of a klansman above the words “Neighborhood Watch,” stares out from dark slits in a white hood. Above the white peak of his organizational costume are the words “Traditionalist American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.” To many, these words and images seem like they belong in a history book. Perhaps the dramatic opening to a documentary about Reconstruction or the Civil Rights Movement. Instead, these words were printed on fliers found in a Spokane Valley neighborhood late this February. Then, late in February, hate crime touched a member of the Eastern family, impacting a professor and many students. In an email, Black Student Union President Satori Butler said, “My adviser Rachel Doležal has experience[d] a horrific amount of hate mail, threaten letters and vandalism to her vehicle. Witnessing this happened to a person that I have a professional relationship with gener-



Archer

ates a number of emotions: Anger, worry, fear to name a few ... So on [behalf] of the entire Black Student Union at EWU witnessing what Rachel Doležal was and is still currently experiencing as [NAACP] president has had a major impact on our organization.” The Klan is not an artifact of the past — although it may be soon. Klan membership has been dropping steadily since 2004, weakened by competing organizations with less bad press. Still, given the violent and terroristic history of the Klan, many people, including myself, wonder why the Klan and other hate groups — like the one that targeted Doležal — are permitted to exist at all in the United States. The answers to these questions turn on the definitions of “hate group” and “permit.” According to the FBI’s “Hate Crime Data Collection Guidelines And Training Manual,” published on Feb. 27 of this year, a hate group is “an organization whose primary purpose is to promote animosity, hostility and malice against persons of or with a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender or gender identity which differs from that of the members or the organization.” The Southern Poverty Law Center uses a similar, albeit looser, definition, saying, “hate groups have beliefs or practices that attack or malign an entire class of people,



Illustration by William Hayden

typically for their immutable characteristics.” By these definitions, groups that fight to curtail the movement and rights of gender and sexual minorities, promotes islamophobia or disseminate racist ideologies — such as the exceptional criminality of blacks and Hispanics — would all be categorized as hate groups. But it’s a sliding scale. When an increasing number of social organizations gather as often online as they do “irl,” it can be hard to define a “chat room full of a\*\*holes” from a bona fide hate group. Even if a hate group does have a history of advocating violence, many organizations avoid legal liability by refraining from centrally-organized actions and instead rely on the rhetoric to inspire lone wolves. According to the 2003 case Virginia v. Black, Klan members are free to burn crosses at rallies as a form of political speech, but burning a cross on someone else’s private property constitutes “virulent intimidation” and is therefore illegal.

HATE GROUPS-PAGE 8

THE EASTERNER

Serving the EWU community since 1916

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Zoë COLBURN  
Opinion Editor  
easterner.opinion@gmail.com

Requirements:

- Letters should be 300 words or less and typed, or legibly handwritten.
- Include your full name, signature, telephone number and email address for verification.
- We reserve the right not to publish letters; furthermore, all letters are subject to editing.
- Letters must be received no later than Monday at 10 a.m. in order to be considered for publication the following Wednesday.
- If your letter is in response to a specific article, please list the title and date of the article.

Editorial policy

We encourage the EWU community to submit letters and opinion pieces that conform to the requirements listed above. Opinion articles and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Easterner, its staff members or Eastern Washington University.

THE EASTERNER

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OP-ED

# April Fools' Day is bullying along a fine line

By **Zoë Colburn**  
*opinion editor*

I might be biased, considering I'm the youngest child in my family, but I hate April Fools' Day. I understand the general appeal of a day where you can play practical jokes on people and avoid being seen as a jerk, I guess?

In all honesty, I'm not entirely sure what the function or reasoning behind April Fools' Day is, but I do know that it is far too easy for what should be a day of fun to turn into a day of bullying.

I don't mean to get preachy or anything, especially because there are definitely a lot of ways April Fools' Day can be fun for everyone rather than just those who play the pranks.

When people play pranks — like pretending to



Colburn

come out or pretending not to remember people or any number of things that can cause actual emotional distress — that's really not a whole lot of fun for the people on the other end.

I'm not entirely sure what kind of fun it is for the people playing the "prank."

Just to make sure I'm being completely clear here, I only mean pranks that cause any kind of actual stress, which are, in general, a bad idea and are considered bullying. Pranks that are only mildly inconvenient, while sometimes gross and uncomfortable, aren't necessarily a bad plan, provided the person playing the prank knows their target well enough to expect a certain reaction from them.

Those legitimately distressing pranks include things most people would probably peg as more cruel than funny — faking a suicide, telling someone they're adopted when they aren't, attempting to get someone to think they're dreaming by telling them to "wake up."

As I said before, I'm not really sure what kind of person finds these pranks funny. All of these pranks, and anything similar to them, are somehow touted as funny by someone when really, all they're likely to do is cause a panic attack on the better end of the spectrum.

Stick to the plastic wrap on the toilet seat. Your roommate might hate you for making them clean up fresh pee, but they'll probably be a lot better off than if you faked your own death.

*"All of these pranks, and anything similar to them, are somehow touted as funny by someone when really, all they're likely to do is cause a panic attack on the better end of the spectrum."*

**Zoë Colburn**  
*opinion editor*

## HATE GROUPS: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

While intimidation, sending death threats through the mail, or otherwise leaving threatening messages that display an intent to harm are criminal offenses, an individual may spend many hours and dollars promoting, say, a ballot initiative that would require the execution of gay people, as Matt McLaughlin did in California earlier this month, and still fail to meet the criteria for a "death threat." This may be because McLaughlin is neither threatening any particular individual with death, nor is he advocating that private individuals inflict violence upon anyone.

And it gets more complicated. According to a research report by the Connecticut

General Assembly, "Under the Interstate Communications Act, it is a crime to transmit in interstate commerce any communication (e.g., by telephone, email, or beeper) containing a threat to injure anyone."

In other words, cyberstalking, sending threatening emails or social media messages or disseminating threatening messages is illegal, but enforcement of this law is fraught by jurisdictional issues, as laws about cyber interactions vary from state to state. One case, involving the description of domestic violence and murder posted to Facebook, has made it to the Supreme Court. The case is called, and the questions put before the court encapsulate the debate about hate speech.

Questions presented: Whether, as a matter of statutory interpretation, conviction

of threatening another person under 18 U.S.C. 875(c) requires proof of the defendant's subjective intent to threaten.

Whether, by virtue of the First Amendment, proof of a defendant's subjective intent to threaten is required for conviction under Section 875(c).

While I have no desire to gut the First Amendment, it seems clear to me that many hate organizations have a history of not just cyber-venting and pamphleteering, but of actual, murderous violence. When organizations exist to eradicate certain kinds of people overseas, we call them terrorist cells. Here, they're "political extremists" and their existence as an organization is protected. I find that incongruous and potentially dangerous.

"In America we have a long history of extremely violent

cases associated with hate crimes ... so when asked should hate groups be taken serious, I have to challenge you to question the value of another man/women's life? If an individual or group of individuals are bold enough to socially, physically, or mental[ly] threaten another human being or organization then just how far are they willing to go?" said Butler.

For now, the legal questions remain unsettled, but there is one solution that remains open to every community. As people who place a high value on the life and dignity of all human beings, I believe it is our duty to nonviolently, reasonably and firmly deny hate groups access and influence in our school, our city, our state, our country. Starve them into nonexistence so that no one has to live with the spectre of hate.

## TREES: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

"[The cherry blossoms] added a lot more life to the mall and now it just looks bland," said Aranzazu.

EWU Landscape Maintenance was contacted via telephone. No one could be reached for comment.

"[Landscape] maintenance is responsible for mowing, irrigation, fertilizing, leaf collection, snow removal, litter patrol [and] pruning of outside plants ..." according to the facilities services page on Eastern's site. The landscapers did a lot more than just pruning in the campus mall.

For a school that prides itself on building an image, and one that believes it has an image problem — a timely example being the PUB remodel — taking the cherry blossoms out of the campus mall seems to be a step backward.

It really is unfortunate that such a beautiful part of campus turned into an uninviting space for students and visitors.



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# EWU athletes set seven conference qualifying marks



Phil Puccino is Eastern's first double qualifier of the season. Photo contributed by goeags.com

Eastern's track and field teams travel to Texas and Montana for meets to begin outdoor season

By BRANDON CLINE  
staff writer

The EWU track and field teams competed in multiple events over the weekend, one of which saw eight athletes make the trek to Austin, Texas for the 88th Nike Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays that lasted four days from March 25-28.

Women's coach Marcia Mecklenburg accompanied the athletes to Texas for the event, which saw three Eagles athletes qualify for the Big Sky Conference Championships. EWU is hosting the event at Roos Field, which will take place between May 13-16.

Two-time Big Sky Champion and three-time runner-up Jordan Arakawa qualified for the conference championships with a hammer throw of 195-8. Arakawa placed 10th in the event amongst athletes from across the nation.

Olivia Midles also hit the qualifying mark in the hammer throw for the conference championships with a toss of 186-7, good for fourth place amongst all athletes.

Emma Murillo, reigning Big Sky Champion in the javelin, was the third EWU athlete to punch their ticket to the conference championships with a throw of 144-5.

"The Texas Relays was a great experience for our athletes. It provided an opportunity for them to compete against some of the top athletes in the nation from the East Region - athletes we don't normally see until the national championships," said Mecklenburg. "We had good early season marks and all the athletes will be able to build on their performances as we work through the season."

The rest of the men's and women's

teams traveled to Missoula, Montana on March 27 and 28 to compete in the Al Manuel Invitational. The Eagles competed against Big Sky foes Montana and Montana State.

Phil Puccino won and qualified for the conference championships in the high jump and triple jump. Puccino jumped 6-8 3/4 in the high jump and 47-5 in the long jump. Men's coach Stan Kerr was impressed with Puccino's performances, saying his efforts were "arguably the best of the meet."

Kelsie Forcier was a force in throwing events for the Eagles, placing second in the hammer throw, shot put and discus, the latter of which qualifying her for the conference championships with a throw of 153-3.

Morena Mannucci's performance in the triple jump was EWU's fourth and final qualifying mark of the meet, with a jump of 39-1.

In all, the Eagles won 15 events at the meet, including freshmen Tierra White in the women's high jump and Jeremy VanAssche in both the men's 100 and 200-meter dash events.

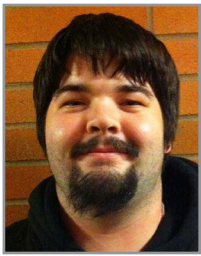
Both the men's and women's 4x100-meter relay teams won in Missoula, making it two wins in a row for the teams.

"The teams performed well coming off dead week, finals week and spring break. I am excited about this season and many, many more stellar performances to come," said Kerr.

The team will split up next week as well, as some athletes will head to Palo Alto, California for the Stanford Invitational on April 3 and 4, while the rest will compete in the Sam Adams Invitational in Spokane on April 4.

COLUMN

# With cautious optimism abound, Mariners will end 14-year playoff drought



BRANDON CLINE

You read the title correctly. A franchise that has been baseball's biggest laughingstock since the turn of the century will be one of baseball's best teams this season.

They'll do it with a lineup full of professional hitters, a pitching staff that will continue to be one of baseball's best and a bullpen that was baseball's best last season.

Out is Abraham Almonte, Justin Smoak and Michael Saunders from last year's Opening Day starting lineup, in is Austin Jackson, Nelson Cruz and Seth Smith in this year's lineup. In 2014, the first group had a combined offensive WAR (oWAR) of 1.5, while Jackson, Cruz and Smith posted a combined oWAR of 9.1.

Seattle's three, four and five slots in the lineup, occupied by Robinson Cano, Cruz and Kyle Seager, feature three all-stars from last season, making them one of the most feared, middle-of-the-lineup trios in all of baseball. The group combined for 79 home runs, 286 runs batted in and a batting average of .284 in 2014.

Hint: that's really, really good, especially in today's MLB, dominated by pitching and defense. Speaking of which, the Mariners excelled in both areas last season and show no signs of slowing down.

Anchored again by Felix Hernandez, the Mariners' 2015 rotation looks even scarier than last year's rotation, which finished second in the MLB and first in the American League in team ERA with a 3.17 earned run average.

Unlike last season when he missed all of Spring Training and the first month of the sea-

son with a finger injury, former all-star Hisashi Iwakuma has remained in great shape heading into the 2015 campaign and is primed for another successful season.

Left-handers James Paxton and J.A. Happ will balance the Mariners' rotation in 2015, with Taijuan Walker locking up the fifth and final spot in the rotation after a nearly flawless spring. Walker gave up one earned run over 25 innings, striking out 24 batters while only walking four. If the 22-year-old righty and former highly-acclaimed prospect maintains even a semblance of his production in the regular season, he will take the rotation from very good to great.

"Last spring I would say we were learning how to win. I think this spring we expect to win. And that's a big difference," said manager Lloyd McClendon in an interview with ESPN's Jim Caple.

ESPN Insider analyst Buster Olney picked the Mariners to advance to the World Series on March 21, losing to the Pirates. Felix Hernandez and Robinson Cano graced the regional cover of the March 26 edition of Sports Illustrated, with the headline saying, "Time to Believe."

Mariners fans have been burned recently when the Mariners were selected as title contenders in 2008 and 2010, as both of those teams went on to finish the season 61-101.

But this team isn't those teams. The Mariners have all the pieces to win their first championship in franchise history this season and anything less than a spot in the playoffs should and will be considered a disappointment.

It's time for fans to embrace expectations, not shy away from them. For the first time since 2001, the Mariners will see you in October.

*"The Mariners have all the pieces to win their first championship in franchise history this season and anything less than a spot in the playoffs should and will be considered a disappointment."*

**Brandon Cline**  
Sports Writer

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Tennis	Football	Track and Field		Golf	
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COLUMN

Coach Cal's changing for the better



SAM DEAL

College basketball is dying. The one-and-done athlete is killing the quality of the game. Ratings and attendance dropping is John Calipari and Kentucky's fault for embracing such players. Shut up.

I am sick and tired of hearing this argument. The one-and-done college basketball atmosphere has brought us the most-watched March Madness tournament in 21 years.

Nielsen rankings have the tournament averaging a 6.3 rating, which is up 3 percent from last year, and Saturday's Elite Eight game between Kentucky and Notre Dame scored an 8.3 rating with 14.7 million total views making it the most watched college basketball game ever on cable television.

The Wildcats pursuit of perfection is bringing in viewers at record numbers and four of the highest rated games on ESPN this year were played by Kentucky, according to SportsMedia Watch.

Kentucky's one-and-done players aren't hurting the game, they are keeping it alive.

This year's UK team actually has broken the mold of Calipari's teams, with six players returning from last season's national championship runner up. The team also features top freshmen Karl-Anthony Towns, Trey Lyles and Devin Booker.

The NBA raised the age limit to 19 in 2006, forcing high school hoopers to wait at least a year to jump to the association. Since that decision, a trend has developed in college basketball; teams with superior freshmen talent face teams with seniors who have had years to develop and grow together.

In 2007, Florida defeated Ohio State winning their second consecutive championship with a veteran-laded team. Meanwhile, OSU sent freshmen Greg Oden and Mike Conley to the draft lottery.

The following year Kansas junior Mario Chalmers led KU past Memphis and soon to be No. 1 overall pick freshman Derrick Rose.

In 2012 it was the Kentucky's defeat of Kansas championship, in 2013 Michigan versus Louisville. And last year's Connecticut win over Kentucky was just the latest example.

The 2015 tournament has shaped up the same way. The final four consists of two veteran teams in Michigan State and Wisconsin and two young teams, Kentucky and Duke.

The contrasting styles has created parity, and the sentiment that one-and-done players are hurting the game is old, irrational and wrong.

How dare young, mostly African-American athletes be in control of their own future?

Yeah that doesn't sound familiar at all. Why should the ones with all the talent be in control of their future, when they can be used by a flawed system to stuff the pockets of those who don't have the athlete's best interest at hand?

When I was 19, it was up to me to determine what was best for my future and when I'm watching Towns stare down Wisconsin's Frank Kaminsky in Saturday's Final Four matchup I think these kids should have the same options.

Pass and Layup



Photo by Anna Mills

Jade Redmon, No. 34 and a Spokane native, dribbles toward the hoop during the EWU home game against Montana State.

Women's basketball season ends in second round of WNIT

By BRANDON CLINE  
staff writer

A season in which the EWU women's basketball team tied a school record with 21 wins and won its first postseason game came to an end on March 23 in the second round of the Women's National Invitational Tournament (WNIT), falling to conference foe Sacramento State University, 84-49.

The Eagles were down by 10 at halftime, but Sacramento State outscored EWU, 46-21, in the final 20 minutes. EWU was 5-21 (28.3 percent) from the field in the second half, while Sacramento State was 18-33 (54.5 percent). The Eagles forced 23 turnovers in the game but committed 33 of their own.

"We did not handle their pressure. We knew what to expect for sure, but we didn't handle it as well as we have in the past," said head coach Wendy Schuller. "It didn't help that we didn't shoot the ball well. That didn't help our confidence at all. We just weren't ourselves tonight."

Guard Lexie Nelson led the Eagles in scoring with 12 points in her final collegiate game and ends her college career ranked fourth all-time in school history in scoring with 1,388 career points. Her 204 made 3-pointers rank first in school history.

Senior Melissa Williams leaves EWU having tied the school record for most games

"I knew we were tied so either way it didn't really matter, but I'm just glad I got the roll and it went in."

Jade Redmon

EWU Women's Basketball, Point Guard

played in a career with 122 and finishing second in program history with 832 rebounds.

EWU defeated Washington State University, 67-65, in the opening round of the tournament, the first postseason victory in program history, and the Eagles' first win in the WNIT in three appearances under Schuller.

With the game tied at 65 apiece, point guard Jade Redmon drove to the rim and made a layup with 0.4 seconds left for the game-winning basket.

"I knew we were tied so either way it didn't really matter, but I'm just glad I got the roll and it went in," said Redmon.

Nelson scored 18 points in the victory to lead EWU, which shot 44.8 percent from the field, compared to 38.8 percent shooting for the Cougars.

"I'm really proud of our team. We stuck together throughout the whole game, played great team defense and just came together," said Nelson. "I thought the

coaches did a good job this week through practice, preparing us and making sure we were ready to play. All around it was just a great team effort."

EWU was out-rebounded and committed more turnovers than WSU, but the Eagles shot 38.9 percent from deep, while the Cougars shot just 11.8 percent.

"I'm just excited for our team," said Schuller. "I thought we played hard and well in a lot of aspects and earned the win. ... We've had a phenomenal season and had some big wins along the way and this is another one that we'll take a lot of pride in when we look back."

Redmon, Hayley Hodgins and Delaney Hodgins return as starters next season as the Eagles look to build off one of the best seasons in program history. EWU finished 12-6 in regular season conference play and lost to eventual Big Sky Tournament champions Montana in the semifinal of the Big Sky Conference Tournament.

"Our season was historic and we had seniors and leaders on our team that made history. We should be really proud of that," said Schuller. "We want to get better and we want to do more, but what we did this season is a huge step for our program. We had wins over Florida, Wichita State and Washington State and that's what we want to look back on and remember."



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